

21. (New) A message notification system comprising:

A pointer generating unit for generating a pointer to one or more messages stored on a message storage device, wherein the message pointer includes direct access parameters to said stored message; and  
a transmitting unit to transmit the pointer to a subscriber.

22. (New) The system according to claim 21, wherein the pointer generating unit generates a telephone number through which a subscriber may gain direct access to the stored message.

#### REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

#### **Status of Claims**

Claims 1-14 are pending in the application. Claims 1-14 have been rejected. New claims 15 - 22 have been added.

#### CLAIM REJECTIONS

##### **Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102**

Claims 1 - 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102§(b) as being anticipated by Yablon (USPN 5,746,731). Claims 1-14 have been canceled without prejudice, thus rendering the rejections moot.

Yablon et al discloses a method and a system for transmitting identifying information to a primary user identifying a source caller. The invention is aimed at significantly simplifying the process through which telephone users can obtain and call one or more telephone numbers [Yablon Summary of the Invention].

New claim 15 recites in part: "generating a unique message pointer associated with said specific message stored on said message server... wherein said message pointer enables direct access to said stored message through a network." Applicants respectfully assert that nowhere in Yablon is it taught or suggested to generate a unique message pointer associated with a specific message stored on said message server. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully assert that nowhere in Yablon is it taught or suggested to generate a unique message pointer associated with a specific message stored on the message server wherein the message pointer enables direct access to the stored message through a network.

New claim 18 recites: "receiving a pointer to a specific stored message and using the pointer to gain direct access to said stored message server through a network." Applicants respectfully assert that nowhere in Yablon is it taught or suggested to receive a pointer to a specific stored message and use the pointer to gain direct access to the stored message server through a network.

New claim 21 recites: "A pointer generating unit for generating a pointer to one or more messages stored on a message storage device, wherein the message pointer includes direct access parameters to said stored message". Applicants respectfully assert that Yablon does not teach or suggest the pointer generating unit for generating a pointer to one or more messages stored on a message storage device, wherein the message pointer includes direct access parameters to the stored message.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 15, 18 and 21 are not anticipated by Yablon at least for the aforementioned reasons.

Claims 16-17, 19-20 and 22 are dependent upon allowable based claim and are therefore allowable by virtue of their dependency on an allowable base claim.

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FILED: November 24, 1999  
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### CONCLUSION

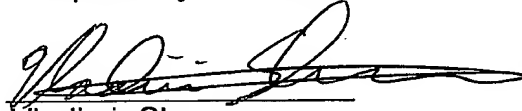
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims 15-22 are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable consideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants note the Examiner's citation of prior art to complete the record.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any additional fees associated with this paper to Deposit Account No. 05-0649.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: January 15, 2003

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